

Appl. No. 09/508,794
Amdt. dated July 28, 2003
Reply to Office Action of March 27, 2003

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed on March 27, 2003 is acknowledged. The subject amendment is in response to the telephonic interview conducted between Examiner Mengistu and the undersigned on June 24, 2003. Applicants request reexamination of the above-mentioned application in view of the above amendments and remarks which follow.

Claims 30-46 and 76-197 are pending in this application. Original claims 30-46, 76-139, 152, 157, 166, 174, 179 and 194 have been canceled herein. Claims 140, 168 and 181 are amended herein.

In the interview, Applicant reviewed claims 140 and 168 in light of the prior art, and in particular in relation to Eberhard, et al. Applicants proposed to amend claims 140 and 168 to delete the alternative language as objected to by the Examiner. In the interview, the Examiner expressed his concern and interpretation that, due to the alternative language, there was either a virtual operating element or a manipulation region. Rather, Applicants intend that the interpretation of the claims be that there is always a virtual operating element and a manipulation region; and that a function can be triggered by the operation of the thumb as well as by the finger.

Applicants also proposed to amend claim 181 to depend from claim 168, rather than claim 105. The Examiner indicated that this claim amendment would overcome the prior art rejection.

In addition, and after review of the Final Rejection, Applicants note that the Examiner objected to the language in the claims to "a transmitter and a receiver for wireless"; "light emitting diode" and "means for receiving the screen pen for use as operating, writing."

REMARKS

The transmitter language is only used in claim 138 which has been canceled herein. The light emitting diode limitation is found in claim 141. Applicants believe that there is adequate support for this language in the specification. On page 17 of the Substitute Specification, line 28, the LED is referred to by reference "L," which also happens to be shown in Figures 1, 5 and 8. The specification indicates: "The book back part BR contains furthermore a light-emitting diode L for indicating the charging state of Battery B." Finally, the means for receiving the screen pen limitation is found in claims 152, 157, 166, 174, 179 and 194, which have also been canceled herein.

As such, Applicants believe that claims 140-151, 153-156, 158-165, 167-173, 175-178, 180-193, and 195-197 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request early passage thereof.

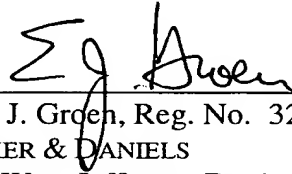
Applicants have also corrected typographical errors in claims 140 and 168. In both claims, Applicants have changed paragraph "bd)" to "bc)." In claim 140, Applicants have changed the language in paragraph a) from "a casing having a at least one" to "a casing having at least one."

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If necessary to effect a timely response, please consider this paper a request for an extension of time, and charge any shortages in fees, or apply any overpayment credits, to Baker & Daniels' Deposit Account No. 02-0387 (72262.90033). However, please do not include the payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being sent via facsimile (703) 872-9314 to
Examiner Amare Mengistu on

July 7, 2003

Date



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